11

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE FALMOUTH AND TRURO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1963.

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FALMOUTH AND TRURO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in presenting once more the Annual Report of your Port Medical Officer of Health for the year ended December 31st, 1963.

This is made in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health which prescribe the requirements of Port Health Medical Officers.

From the Port Medical aspect nothing of a serious nature has occurred. During the year I have, for the purpose of attending to sick and injured, visited 34 vessels - landing for hospital admission 36 cases.

There were no cases of notifiable disease.

The number of Deratting Exemption Certificates totalled 85 : No Deratting Certificates were necessary.

An average of four vessels have been laid up in the River Fal throughout the year and these are periodically inspected. I have had no complaints from your Health Inspector.

There has been very little sickness of a serious nature on the vessels in the Harbour and Docks.

The following details are in tabulated form and represent the work carried out on behalf of this Authority.

May I express my appreciation of the considerable help and co-operation of your Health Inspector, Mr.Jackett, and his appointment to continue in office.

There is a happy co-operative state prevailing in all Departments, H.M.Customs, Agents and boatmen to whom I express my thanks for their continued help and co-operation.

I am,
Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

A. CECIL DICK

FALMOUTH AND TRURO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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ROBERT DICK

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I. STAFF

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of appointment	Date of appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
D.HALL	Clerk	21 February, 1952	-	Deputy Town Clerk, Falmouth.
J.W.MORTON	Treasurer	28 December,1951	-	Manager, Lloyds Bank, Falmouth.
A.C.DICK	Port Medical Officer of Health	2 February 1945	M.R.C.S.Eng. L.R.C.P.Lond.	-
H.R.T.DEVLIN	Deputy Port Medical Officer of Health	1 April, 1955	M.B., B.Ch., Dublin	-
F.JACKETT	Port Health Inspector	1 October, 1940	Cert.R.San.I.	-

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health) 17 Boscawen Road, Falmouth. Tel. Falmouth 4226.

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II. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports	244	1,039,173	7	198	-
Coastwise	544	1,197,828	7	463	-
Total	788	2,237,001	14	661	-

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III. CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic.....	Number of passengers INWARDS Nil Number of passengers OUTWARDS Nil	
Cargo Traffic	Principal IMPORTS	General cargo, including food produce, coal, cement, timber, oil and petroleum spirit.
	Principal EXPORTS	None.

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive :-

Amsterdam, Antwerp, Curacao, Cherbourg, Dieppe, Flushing, Gibraltar, Hampton Roads, Halifax N.S., Hamburg, Narvik, Oslo, Rotterdam, Rouen, Stockholm.

Approximately 75% of vessels arrive from Scandinavian, Continental and United Kingdom Ports for Dry Docking after discharging cargo abroad.

IV. INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no Barge traffic in the Port.

V. WATER SUPPLY

No Change.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

No Change.

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V. WATER SUPPLY

No Change.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

No Change.

VII. SMALLPOX

All cases or suspected cases of smallpox may be sent to Lee Mill Hospital, Near Ivybridge, Devon.

Ambulances for the transport of such cases would be supplied by the Cornwall County Council who are also responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crew.

The Smallpox consultants available are -

Dr. D. F. Johnstone,
The Scott Isolation Hospital,
Plymouth.

(Tel.Plymouth 51437 & Home 73896).

Dr. W. A. Lister,
10 The Crescent,
Plymouth.

(Tel. Plymouth 61875 & Home Devonport 51040).

Specimens for laboratory diagnosis would be sent to The Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London, N.W.9. (Tel.Colindale 7041).

VIII. VENEREAL DISEASE

No Change.

IX. CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	-	-	-	-
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	-	-	-	-
Cases landed from other ships	-	-	-	-

X. OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No case of Malaria has been observed during the past year.

XI. MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No ships infected with or suspected for plague have arrived during the past year.

XII. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Procedure for inspection of ships for rats

Vessels are boarded by the Port Health Inspector as soon as possible after arrival, and unless the Masters produce recently issued certificates, inspections are extended to the holds, etc., in order to ascertain the rat population. Where indications of rat infestation are found traps are set and poison baits are laid, and in cases where the deratting certificate has expired and indications of rodent infestation are found, the vessel is ordered to be fumigated.

Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological Examination of Rodents

Arrangements have been made for the bacteriological and pathological examination of rodents at the Royal Infirmary, Pathological Department, Truro.

No rodents have been sent for examination during the year.

Arrangements for deratting ships and methods used

Deratting of ships is normally carried out entirely by fumigation by hydrogen cyanide. The work is carried out by a commercial contractor, Fumigation Services Ltd., of London.

Progress in the rat-proofing of ships

Vessels are found to be largely rat-proof.

TABLE E

RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

Category	Number
Black rats	-
Brown rats	-
Sent for examination	-
Infected with plague	-

TABLE F

DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Number of Deratting Certificates issued					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates Issued	Total Certificates Issued
After fumigation with		After trapping	After poisoning	Total		
HCN	Other fumigant (State method)					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
-	-	-	-	-	85	85

XIII. INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G

INSPECTION AND NOTICES

Nature and Number of inspections		Notices Served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
General Inspections	661	-	83	All notices complied with.
Re-visits	1,246	-	-	-
Total	1,907	-	83	-

XIV. PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS 1934 and 1948

Samples of Oysters were obtained from the main suppliers to the Market, namely :-

Messrs. Helford Oyster Fisheries.
Messrs. H. Johns, Flushing.
Messrs. Gunn, Coombe, Truro.
Messrs. Baker, Coombe, Truro.
Mr.F.F.Vinnicombe, Mylor, Falmouth.

These were examined by the Public Health Pathologist, Royal Cornwall Infirmary and were pronounced very clean and fit for human consumption.

XV. MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Medical Inspectors of Aliens holding Warrants of Appointment

Dr. Albert Cecil Dick, Port Medical Officer of Health.

Other Staff

None.

Organisation of Work and Nature and Amount of Alien Traffic

Falmouth is an approved Port under the Aliens Order for the landing of aliens but there is little or no aliens traffic in the Port. In the event, however, of aliens arriving arrangements would be made for medical inspection to be carried out on board. It has not been thought necessary to make any special arrangements for providing accommodation for medical inspection and examination ashore.

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

No Change.

FALMOUTH AND TRURO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year 1963.

SHIP INSPECTION

During the year 661 vessels were inspected and 83 of them were found to have nuisances or defects on board. Verbal and informal notices were given and as a result all the nuisances and defects were remedied. 1,246 re-visits were made to vessels in connection with these nuisances and defects and rat destruction and vessels from infected areas.

As shown in Table B 198 ships from Foreign Ports were inspected and 463 ships from Coastwise Ports, making the total of 661.

Nuisances and Defects

These consisted mainly of structural defects caused through wear and tear, defective heating apparatus, dirty, foul and defective water closets and fittings and bathrooms, choked scuppers, dirty clothes lockers, and messrooms.

Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health

This type of nuisance and other conditions prejudicial to health are now rare. The number of vessels dealt with during the year on account of these conditions of the crew's quarters is becoming much less than in previous years.

The disinfestation of verminous vessels is carried out by the pressure spraying of liquid insecticides. During the year 35 vessels were dealt with.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) (Vessels) Regulations, 1958.

The attention of the Masters and Engineers of vessels arriving at the Port is directed to the requirements of the Regulations.

The minimum times for observing smoke emissions vary for 30 minutes (black smoke) to 2 hours (dark smoke) and in order to implement the main purpose of the Act, visits are made to the vessels when any dark smoke is being emitted and representation made to the Officer-in-Charge. He is informed that observation is being kept and requested to make every effort

to reduce the emission.

During the year 52 observations were made of smoke emissions from 20 British Ships, and 32 from foreign ships. In each case the emission was within the prescribed limits and the intensity reduced following my visit.

RAT DESTRUCTION

The sheds, quays, and wharves are periodically visited and inspected and immediate measures are taken when fresh evidence of rats or their presence is reported. Poison baits are laid by the Docks Rodent Officer.

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951, AND AMENDMENT NO. 2 ORDER, 1956

In addition to the functions they exercise, in common with other local authorities, Port Health Authorities are empowered to issue Rodent Control Certificates. The purpose of these certificates is to relieve Authorities from the necessity of inspecting coastwise vessels which are known to be free or to have been recently freed from rats and mice and the period of validity has been limited to four months.

Since the Amendment No. 2 Order came into operation authorising a charge for these Certificates, most of the vessels have preferred to pay the slight additional cost and obtain International Certificates. No certificates were issued during 1963.

FOOD INSPECTION
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955
THE PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937 AND 1948
PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS, 1962

No imported food-stuffs are discharged within the Port Health District. No action necessary.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED MILK REGULATIONS), 1926

No action necessary.

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Since the Amendment No. 2 Order came into operation authorising a charge for these Certificates, most of the vessels have preferred to pay the slight additional cost and obtain International Certificates. No certificates were issued during 1957.

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937 AND 1948
PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS, 1956

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED MILK REGULATIONS), 1956

No action necessary.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948

There are five oyster beds in the district all separately owned. Samples of oysters have been taken from all of them and submitted for bacteriological examination and all were found to be 100% pure.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK JACKETT
Port Health Inspector.

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